

Letter from Alexander Graham Bell to Mabel Hubbard Bell, August 31, 1875, with transcript

Salem, Mass., Aug. 31st, 1875. Dear Miss Mabel

Just as I was leaving for Canada yesterday afternoon, I heard of the death of my old friend Dr. Ira Allen of Boston — to whom I am indebted for all my professional success in America.

He it was who induced me to leave Canada and enter upon the work of Articulation-teaching; and he has been my steady friend ever since. He has used all his influence in the Board of Education — and in the Medical Profession — on my behalf — and I feel his loss as quite a personal one.

There never was a nobler-hearted or more philanthropic man than he. Almost his last public act was to obtain an appropriation of twenty thousand dollars for the benefit of the Boston Day-School for the Deaf — of which he has been for many years the mainstay and support.

I shall certainly pay the tribute to his memory of remaining to attend his funeral.

Had it not been for this I should have missed your noble and most welcome letter. God bless you for it. Whoever may win your love may be worthy of you.

Your sincere friend A. Graham Bell. Miss Mabel G. Hubbard Brattle St.- Cambridge.